

Burlington Township Recreational  
Hockey League  
**GAME RULES**  
For Street & Roller Hockey

## Referees – Presence and Duties

- No game may begin without a league-approved referee present
- Each game will have at least one referee in attendance
- Two referees are required to officiate a Pee-Wee and Bantam games.
- They have full control of the game in calling:
  - offsides
  - clearing infractions, and
  - assessing penalties.
- Each referee patrols one half of the rink which will be designated between them before the start. Both referees have equal powers to make calls in both zones.
  - Should there be a difference of opinion by the referees on a call or a goal, the final ruling rests with the referee in whose zone the infraction or goal occurred. The referee also notifies the scorer-timekeeper as to who scored the goal and assists, if any.
- If the timekeeper is a qualified referee, the game referee may request assistance of timekeeper for purpose of additional input (i.e. clarification of rules, better understanding of view, etc.)
- Before dropping the ball, the referee sees to it that all other officials, including timekeeper, are in their respective positions
- Referees may grant a five minute grace period before the start of a game

## Referees – Disputes

- **ALL REFEREE DECISIONS ARE FINAL!**
- The game referee has the right to eject from the game any player, coach, or parent if said persons conduct becomes disruptive to the game.
  - If he/she refuses to leave, a forfeit will be declared against the team in which he/she is affiliated.
  - Shouting or arguing with referees is considered disruptive
- No debating or arguing Referees decision
  - Failure to comply will result in bench penalty
- A Head Coach may request a rule interpretation from the game referee and only during an official stoppage of play
- Only the Head Coach has the authority to question a referee's call.
  - Any Assistant Coach or spectator who questions a decision by the referee shall be issued a warning.
  - The Head Coach will be notified of the warning, and if actions persist a penalty shall be assessed
  - If actions still persists, conduct will be considered disruptive and may result in an ejection, and a Code of Conduct violation.
    - **Note: Any violation of the above may lead to police involvement and prosecution**

## Referees - Abuse or Threats to Officials

- Any player, coach or parent, who is discourteous or threatens a referee or other official before, during or after a game, will be reported to the Hockey Association and Recreation Commission for immediate disciplinary action and possible suspension.
- Any player, coach or parent who attempts or threatens to strike a referee, or other official during or after a game shall receive a game misconduct penalty and shall be reported to Hockey Association, the Recreation Commission, and the Recreation Commissioner for immediate disciplinary action.

## Timekeeper

- The timekeeper shall control the time from the first face-off by starting the clock and stopping the clock whenever there is a stoppage in play. He shall also be responsible for signaling the end of each period.
- The timekeeper shall inform the referee of the time remaining in each period or penalties when requested by the referee or the penalized player.
- In the event of any dispute regarding time, the matter shall be referred to the referee in charge and his decision shall be final.
- The scorer shall record the time of each goal scored, by whom and to whom assists, if any, are to be credited.
- The scorer shall also keep a record of all penalties assessed, stating the name and numbers of the penalized player, the duration of each penalty, the infraction and the time the penalty was assessed.
- The scorer shall inform the referee when the same player has received his third minor penalty or his second misconduct penalty in the same game. If either occurs the player will be removed from the game immediately.
- At the end of each game, the scorer and the referee shall sign the official score sheet and the scorer shall see to it that the report is given to the league.
- When only one person handles the scoring and timekeeping he assumes all the responsibility of both the scorer-timekeeper.
- **Note: Only approved officials may be in the scorekeepers box, including timekeeper, scorekeeper, association members, commissioners, and township governing bodies.**

## Penalties

Penalties shall be classified as follows:

1. Minor
  2. Bench Minor
  3. Major
  4. Misconduct
  5. Game Misconduct
  6. Match Penalty (Intent to Injure)
  7. Penalty Shot
- Penalties may be assessed at any time during the game when an offense is committed regardless of whether play is in progress.
  - If an offense occurs after the conclusion of a game and before the players have left the playing surface, a penalty shall be assessed and such penalty shall be reported Hockey Association and Recreation Commission.
  - Where the rules state that the coach shall designate a player to serve a penalty and the coach or manager refuses to name a player, the referee shall name any player of the offending team to serve the penalty.

## Time of Penalties - Minor/Major/Misconduct

The time of each penalty will vary depending on whether it's a major, minor or misconduct penalty and the length of the periods as follows (in minutes):

Period Length	Minor	Major	Misconduct
10	1	2.5	5
12	1.5	4	6

<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>

### Minor Penalty

- Any player, except for the goalie, given a minor penalty must sit in the penalty box for the time designated with no substitute for him being allowed.
- If, while a team is short handed because of one or more minor or bench minor penalties, the opposing team scores a goal, the first of such penalties shall terminate automatically. If the player has received a "double minor", only the first minor penalty will terminate.
- "Short-handed" means one team, due to penalties received is playing with less players on the surface than its opponent at the time the goal is scored. The minor or bench minor which terminates automatically is whichever penalty caused the team scored against to be short-handed originally, thus coincidental minor penalties to both teams do NOT cause either side to be "short-handed". Note: Goals scored on a penalty shot do not apply in terminating penalties.
- Coincidental minor or bench minor penalties to both teams do not cause either team to be shorthanded so both penalties shall continue to be served regardless of how many goals are scored by either team.
- When coincidental major penalties are imposed against players of both teams, the penalized players shall not leave the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play following the expiration of the respective penalties

### 3 Penalty Rule

- Once a player has been assessed a third **contact** penalty in one game, they are suspended for the remainder of the game and may not enter the playing surface.
- A substitute for the ejected player is permitted immediately, but the penalty must be served by the penalized team.
- All violations of the 3 Penalty Rule will be reported to Hockey Association and Recreation Commission.

### Bench Minor Penalty

- A bench minor penalty requires the assessed team to play a man short in actual playing time.
- The coach or of the penalized team shall designate any player of his team to serve the penalty. Such player will take his place in the penalty box and serve the penalty as if it were a minor penalty imposed upon him.
- A player in the penalty box who is to be changed after his penalty has been served must proceed by way of the playing surface and be at the player's box before any change can be made. Penalty for infraction: Bench Minor.

### Major Penalties

- For a major penalty in the game to a player, including the goaltender, the penalized player shall be ruled off the playing surface and assessed an appropriate length penalty.
- When a player is assessed both a minor and major penalty, the major penalty shall be served first.
- When coincidental major penalties are imposed against players of both teams, the penalized players shall not leave the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play following the expiration of the respective penalties.

## **Misconduct Penalties**

- A player, except a goaltender, incurring a misconduct penalty, shall be ruled off the playing surface for the appropriate playing time. A substitute for the penalized player shall be permitted immediately. The penalized player must go to the penalty box until his time has expired and he cannot return to his bench or the playing surface until there is a stoppage of play.
- When a player is assessed a minor and a misconduct penalty or a major and misconduct penalty at the same time, the penalized team shall immediately place a substitute player in the penalty box to serve the minor or place a substitute for the major and another substitute for the misconduct.
- A player who is assessed a second misconduct penalty in the same game shall automatically be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

## **Coincidental Major Penalties**

- When coincidental major penalties are imposed against an equal number of players of each team, the penalized players shall all take their places on the penalty benches and such penalized players shall not leave the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play following the expiration of their respective penalties. Immediate substitutions shall be made for the players so penalized.

## **Game Misconduct**

- A coach or player being assessed a game misconduct penalty shall not be allowed on the playing surface, nor on the players' bench, and is suspended for the remainder of the game.
- The incident leading to the game misconduct must be reported to Hockey Association and Recreation Commission.
- A substitute for the penalized player is permitted immediately.

## **Match Penalty**

- Any coach or player incurring a match penalty shall be barred from the entire playing area including the benches and the spectator's area for the balance of the game and will not be permitted to take part in any further games until his case has been dealt with by the Hockey Association and Recreation Commission.
- In every instance where a match penalty has been assessed, the offending member's team shall be assessed a major penalty which must be served by a substitute player.
- A match penalty shall be assessed any player who deliberately attempts to injure an opponent, official, coach, or spectator in any manner.
- Any player using his stick as a weapon in an altercation or a fight or attempting to kick an opponent, shall be considered as "deliberately attempting to injure" and shall be assessed a match penalty.
- A substitute for the penalized player shall be permitted after the time of a major penalty has been served. The substitute must take his place in the penalty box when the penalty is assessed and cannot return to the playing surface until there is a stoppage of play.

## **Awarded Goals**

- A goal will be awarded to the attacking team when the opposing team has taken its goaltender off the playing surface and an attacking player has the ball without a defending player between himself and the opposing goal and:
  - He is interfered with by an opposing player who has illegally entered the game.

- A stick or any other object is thrown by a player from the defending team either on the playing surface or on any bench.
- The ball carrier is fouled from behind and prevented from having a clear shot on the open goal.

### **Penalty Shot**

- A penalty shot assessed by the referee shall be taken as follows:  
The referee will publicly announce the name of the player designated by him or selected by the team entitled to the shot (as appropriate) and shall then place the ball at the center face-off spot and the player taking the shot will, on the instruction of the referee, start the ball from there and shall attempt to score on the goaltender. The ball must be kept in motion towards the opponent's goal line and once it is shot, the play shall be considered complete. No goal can be scored on a rebound of any kind and any time the ball crosses the goal line, the shot shall be considered complete.
- The goaltender must remain in his goal crease until the ball has crossed the adjacent clearing line and, in the event of violation of this rule, the shot can be taken over again. The goaltender may attempt to stop the shot in any manner except by throwing his stick or any object, in which case a goal will be awarded.
- If a foul against a player leads to the penalty shot being assessed, that player shall take the penalty shot. In all other instances, the coach will designate the player taking the penalty shot providing that player was on the playing surface when the call was made.
- If the penalty shot was awarded for falling on the ball or picking up the ball with his hand while the ball is in the goal crease, the coach will designate which player, who was on the playing surface at the time of the infraction, will take the penalty shot.
- While the penalty shot is being taken, players of both sides shall withdraw to the sides of the rink and beyond the blue center line. No member of an opposing team may interfere in any way with the player making the penalty shot.
- If a goal is scored from a penalty shot, the ball is faced-off at the center spot. If a goal is not scored, the ball is faced-off at either of the two end face-off spots where the penalty shot was tried.
- If the offense for which the penalty shot was awarded was such as would normally incur a minor penalty, the regardless of whether the penalty shot results in a goal or not, no minor penalty shall be served.
- The time required for taking penalty shot shall not be included in the regular playing time or any overtime. Should the calling of the foul be delayed by the referee for completion of the play and the game ends, the penalty shot is allowed to take place.

### **Goaltender Penalties**

- No goaltender shall be sent to the penalty bench for an infraction which incurs a minor, major or misconduct penalty. Instead, such a penalty shall be served by any player of his team who was on the playing surface when the infraction occurred.
  - Such player shall be designated by the coach of the penalized team.
- Should a goaltender incur a major penalty in the game, he will be ejected.
- An alternate goaltender may replace a regular goaltender who has been assessed a game misconduct or a match penalty.
  - Such a substitute will be allowed 5 minutes to put on the full goaltender's equipment.
- When a goaltender leaves his goal crease to join in a fight or altercation, or take part in another fight during the same stoppage of play, he shall receive a game misconduct penalty.
- When a goaltender leaves the goal crease during a fight or altercation, he shall be assessed a minor penalty, except if the fight or altercation occurs in the crease, plus any other penalties he might receive.

- If a goaltender participates in the play in any manner when he is beyond the center line, he shall be assessed a minor penalty.

### **Delayed Penalty**

- If a third player of any team shall be penalized while two players of the same team are serving penalties, the penalty time of the third player shall not begin until the penalty time of one of the two players already penalized has elapsed. Nevertheless, the third player penalized must at once proceed to the penalty bench, but may be replaced on the playing surface by a substitute until such time as the penalty time of the penalized player shall begin.
- When the penalties to the player or players have expired and the penalized team is entitled to four or more players on the playing surface, the timekeeper shall permit the penalized players to return to the playing surface in the order of expiration of their penalties. When the play has been stopped, the player whose full penalty has expired may return to play.
- When the penalties to the player or players have expired and the penalized team is entitled to more than four players on the playing surface, the timekeeper shall permit the penalized players to return to the playing surface in the order of expiration of their penalties.
- When a major and minor penalty are assessed at the same time against two different players of the same team, the timekeeper shall record the minor as being the first penalty assessed, followed by the major penalty.

### **Calling of Penalties**

- The referee shall blow his whistle immediately if a player on the team in possession of the ball commits an infraction of the rules which would call for a minor, major, bench minor, misconduct or match penalty and gives the penalties to the deserving players.
  - The resulting face-off shall be where the play was stopped unless the stoppage occurred in the offending player's attacking zone, in which case the face-off is brought back to the defensive zone adjacent to the center line.
- If a player on the team not in possession of the ball commits an infraction, the referee shall signify the penalty by pointing to the offending player but will allow play to continue until the offending team gains possession of the ball at which time he will blow the whistle and assess appropriate penalties.
- If the penalty to be assessed is a minor penalty and a goal is scored on the play by the non-offending side, the minor penalty shall not be assessed but major and match penalties shall be assessed, logged and recorded, regardless of whether a goal is scored.
- If further rule infractions are committed by the same offending player either before or after the referee blows his whistle, that player shall serve the penalties consecutively.
- A bench minor penalty shall be imposed on the team of any penalized player who does not proceed directly and immediately to the penalty box and take his place on the penalty box.

### **Off-Side – Floating Blue Line (Does not apply to Roller Hockey)**

- An offensive player cannot cross the **blue line** into the offensive zone before the ball has crossed the line. If this happens, it is an off-side; play is stopped and the players face-off at the neutral zone face-off spots next to the blue line.
- The player must have both feet inside the zone to be called off-side. He can straddle the line or have one foot on the line and still be considered "on-side".
- If a defensive player takes the ball back into his own defensive zone with an offensive player already across the center line, this shall not be considered an off-side
- If the offensive player deflects the ball off a defensive player in sending the ball across the center line into the attacking zone, it shall be considered an off-side if an offensive player precedes the ball across the line.

### **Delayed Off-Side (Does not apply to Roller Hockey)**

- If the ball rolls freely across the blue line with an offensive player in the offensive zone and no offensive player touches the ball, the referee can call a delayed off-side by simply raising his arm but does not stop play. The referee shall drop his arm to nullify the offside violation and allow play to continue if:
  - The defending team passes or carries the ball into their attacking zone, or
  - All offensive players in the attacking zone clear the zone by crossing the center line. The attacking zone must be completely clear of offensive players before offside is nullified.

### **Icing (Does not apply to Roller Hockey)**

- Icing is called when a defensive player shoots the ball from his defensive side of the blue line over the opposing team's goal line without any other player touching it. Icing is called immediately when the ball crosses the goal line. The ball is brought back to the defensive zone of the team committing the infraction and a face-off is held in the circle on either side of the goal.
- Note: The ball, and not the player's feet, is the determining factor in judging this infraction.
- Clearing is "washed out" by either referee if, in their opinion, any of the following occurred:
  - If the ball crosses any part of the goal crease.
  - If the goalies touches the ball before it crosses the goal line.
  - If, in the opinion of the officials, the defensive player could have played the ball before it crossed the goal line.
  - If, due to penalties assessed, (except for misconducts) the team is playing short-handed against their opponents.
  - If both teams are equally short-handed, icing is not allowed.

### **Ball Out-of-Bounds**

- A ball is considered out-of-bounds if it leaves the rink area or if it hits anything other than the boards, fence or posts. A face-off takes place where the ball was shot or deflected out-of bounds.
- A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who delays the game by deliberately shooting, batting or throwing the ball outside the playing surface of the rink. The resulting face-off shall be at the spot where the offense occurred.

### **Freezing the Ball**

- When the ball becomes lodged in the netting on the outside of either goal and is not playable, or it is frozen between opposing players, intentionally or otherwise, the referee shall stop play. The resulting face-off shall be at either end face-off spot in that zone. If in the opinion of the referee an attacking player is responsible for the stoppage the face-off shall be at the nearest face-off spot in the defensive zone.
- If the referee loses sight of the ball (as in a scramble or when the ball is accidentally lodged underneath a player), he blows his whistle, stops the action, and conducts a face-off at the nearest face-off spot.
- A minor penalty shall be assessed a goaltender who deliberately drops or throws the ball on the goal netting to cause a stoppage of play.

### **Delaying the Game**

- A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player or goaltender who delays the game by deliberately throwing, shooting or batting the ball with his stick, feet or hand outside the playing area.
- A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player who delays the game by deliberately covering the ball with his foot.
- A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player or goaltender who delays the game by deliberately displacing the goal from its normal position, The referee or linesman shall stop play immediately when a goal post has been displaced.
- The referee shall assess a bench minor penalty to any team who, in the opinion of the referee, is taking too much time to make substitutions. A warning shall be given to the bench at least once before assessing the first penalty for this infraction.
- The referee has the right to stop play immediately in the case of a match penalty. The resulting face-off will be where the play was stopped unless the stoppage occurred in the offending player's attacking zone in which case the face-off is brought out to the defensive zone.

### Abuse of Officials and Other Misconducts

- Coaches shall be responsible for the conduct of their players at all times. They must try to prevent disorderly conduct before, during, and after the game, on or off the playing surface. The referee may assess penalties on any of the above officials for failure to do so and shall report full details of any incident to the Hockey Association and the Commissioner.
- A misconduct penalty shall be assessed on any player who:
  - Uses obscene, profane or abusive language or gestures to any person.
  - Persists in disputing or shows disrespect for the ruling of any official.
  - Intentionally knocks or shoots the ball out of reach of an official who is retrieving it.
  - Any player who intentionally breaks his stick inside the immediate playing area, players bench, penalty box and surrounding areas.

A player who, after receiving a misconduct penalty, persists in using obscene or profane language shall be assessed a **game misconduct** penalty and will be removed from the playing area. In such cases, a substitute shall be allowed.

- Coaches guilty of such misconduct shall be removed from the bench and ordered from the playing area for the remainder of the game by the referee. The referee shall report the incident in full detail to the Hockey Association and the Commissioner.
- If the referee is unable to identify the person responsible for the use of obscene, profane or abusive language, a **bench minor** penalty shall be assessed the offending team.
- A **minor penalty** for unsportsmanlike conduct will be assessed any player:
  - Using obscene, profane or abusive language on the rink that was not directed at a specific person.
  - Showing disrespect towards any referee or game official in any degree less than what would incur a misconduct penalty.
- A **misconduct penalty** shall be assessed any player who, after one warning by the referee, persists in any course of conduct (including threatening and abusive language or gestures or similar actions) designed to incite an opponent into incurring a penalty.
- A **misconduct penalty** shall be assessed any player or players who, except for taking their positions on the penalty bench, enter or remain in the referee's crease while the referee is reporting to or consulting with any game official including the timekeeper or official scorer.
- A **bench minor penalty** shall be assessed against the offending team if any player or coach throws anything on the playing surface.

### Adjustment of Equipment

- The responsibility or obligation, or both, for maintaining equipment in proper condition shall be upon the player. If adjustments are required, the player must leave the playing surface and play shall continue uninterrupted using a substitute.
  - A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who delays the game by not leaving the playing surface.
- A goaltender **MAY** delay the game to adjust his equipment during a stoppage of play when safety is an immediate concern.

### **Broken Stick**

- A player whose stick has broken may participate in the game provided he drops the broken portion to the playing surface immediately.
  - A **minor penalty** shall be assessed for any infraction of this rule.
- A player whose stick is broken may only receive another stick personally from his players' bench and may not receive a stick thrown on the playing surface from any part of the rink.
  - A **minor penalty** shall be assessed for any infraction of this rule.
- A goaltender may continue to play with a broken stick until a stoppage of play or until he is legally provided with a stick by another player.
  - A goaltender may receive a stick from a teammate without proceeding to his player's bench.

**A broken stick is one which, in the opinion of the referee is unfit for normal play.**

### **Boarding (Contact)**

- A **minor or major penalty**, at the discretion of the referee, based upon the degree of the impact with the boards, shall be assessed any player who body checks, cross checks, elbows, charges or trips an opponent in such a manner that the opponent is thrown violently into the boards.
- A player standing his own ground along the boards where an opponent is trying to go through too small an opening is **not** boarding.

### **Bodychecking and Charging (Contact)**

- The definition of bodychecking is when a player uses his body to BUMP an opponent out of position by using his shoulder or hips.
- A minor or major penalty at the discretion of the referee shall be assessed any player who bodychecks an opponent.
- A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who runs or jumps into or charges an opponent. A goaltender is not fair game just because he is outside the goal crease area. A penalty for interference, checking or charging (minor or major) should be called in every case where an opposing player makes unnecessary contact with a goaltender.
- A major penalty shall be assessed any player who jumps at or charges an opponent from behind, charges a goaltender while the goaltender is within his crease or who injures an opponent as a result of a charge.

### **Crosschecking (Contact)**

- A minor or major penalty, at the discretion of the referee, shall be assessed any player who cross checks an opponent.
- A major penalty shall be assessed any player who cross checks a goaltender while he is in his crease or who injures an opponent as the result of a cross check.

### **Elbowing and Kneeing (Contact)**

- A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who fouls an opponent in any manner with his elbow or knee.
- A major penalty shall be assessed any player who injures an opponent by elbowing or kneeling.

### **Deliberate Injury - Intent to Injure (Contact)**

- A match penalty shall be assessed any player who deliberately injures, attempts to injure, or kicks an opponent, official, coach, or spectator in any manner.
- It shall be necessary to place a substitute on the penalty bench when the penalty is assessed to take the place of the penalized player and the substitute player shall not return to the playing surface until a double major has been served.

### **Stepping on the Ball**

- Any player except the goaltender who intentionally steps on the ball and holds it under his foot for more than 2 seconds shall be given a minor penalty for delay of game.

### **Face-offs**

- A face-off shall take place by the referee dropping the ball between the sticks of the players facing-off. **The ball must hit the surface before either player makes contact with the ball. Neither player may contact his opponent's body in any way until the face-off is completed.** The players taking the face-off shall stand squarely facing their opponents end of the rink approximately one stick length apart with the full blade of their sticks flat on the playing surface and entirely clear of the place where the ball is to be dropped. All other players on both teams must be at least 12 feet away from the player taking the face-off and they must be on-side.
- If a violation of this rule occurs, the referee shall order another face-off.

**Note: If, after a warning by the referee either of the players fails to take his proper position for the face-off promptly, the official shall be entitled to face-off the ball even though only one player is in position.**

- Any player taking a face-off who, in the referee's opinion intentionally causes the ball to go out of the rink on the face-off, shall be waived from the next face-off.
- If a player facing-off fails to take his proper position immediately when directed by the referee, the referee may order him replaced for that faceoff by any other player on the playing surface.
- When an infringement of a rule has been committed or a stoppage of play has been caused by any attacking player in their attacking zone, the ensuing face-off shall be in the defensive zone at the nearest face-off spot. This includes stoppage of play caused by a player of attacking side shooting the ball onto the back of the defending team's net without any intervening action by the defending team.
- When an infringement of any rule has been committed by the players of both teams, the ensuing face-off shall be at the place where stoppage occurred, unless otherwise stated in the rules.
- When a stoppage of play occurs between the end face-off spots and the nearest end of the rink the face-off shall be at the nearest end face-off spot, unless otherwise stated in the rules.

- When a goal is illegally scored as a result of the ball being deflected off the referee directly into the net, the face-off position will be at either end face-off spot where the ball went into the net.
- When play is stopped for any reason not specifically covered in the Official Rules, the ball shall be faced-off where it was last played.

### **Falling on the Ball**

- A minor penalty shall be assessed any player except a goaltender who deliberately falls on or gathers the ball into his body by any means, while standing or lying on the playing surface.

**Note: This rule shall be interpreted so that a penalty shot will be awarded only when the ball is in the crease at the instant the play is stopped.**

- A minor penalty shall be assessed when any goaltender who deliberately falls on or gathers the ball into his body or holds or places the ball against any part of the goal or the boards when the ball is behind the goal line and the goaltender's body is entirely behind his goal line.
- A penalty shot shall be awarded against the offending team when a defending player (except the goaltender) deliberately falls on the ball, holds or gathers the ball onto his body, in any manner, or picks up the ball with his hand, while the ball is within the goal crease. No other penalty shall be assessed.

**Note: If the goaltender has been removed, he may return to the playing surface for the penalty shot.**

### **Roughing (Contact)**

- A minor penalty will be assessed any player or players who, in the opinion of the referee, act unduly aggressive, short of actual fighting. A referee shall do his utmost to be quick on these calls thereby avoiding the more serious fighting infraction.

### **Fighting (Contact)**

- A major penalty shall be assessed any player who starts a fight.
- A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who, having been struck, shall retaliate with a blow or attempted blow. If such a player continues the altercation, the referee may assess a major penalty.
- A game misconduct penalty shall be assessed any player involved in a fight off the playing surface or with another player who is off the playing surface. Such conduct will be considered a violation of the Code of Conduct and will be reported and reviewed by the Recreation Commission.
- Any player joining in a fight, acting as a peacemaker or taking part in another fight, during the same stoppage of play, will be assessed a game misconduct penalty.
- Any player, who following a fight or altercation in which he has been involved and same has been broken up and he has been penalized, fails to proceed directly and immediately to the penalty bench or causes any delay by returning for his equipment (gloves, stick, etc. shall be delivered to his at the penalty bench by his teammates on the playing surface at the time of infraction) shall receive a bench minor.

### **Gross Misconduct**

- A Gross Misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player, coach or manager for any of the following: attack or threat to an official, intentional damage to the playing surface (facility)

- or township owned property, damage to an opponent's equipment, hair-pulling, biting or spitting. Such persons shall be ejected from the remainder of the game.
- If a player so dismissed is taking part in the game, he shall be charged with a game misconduct penalty and a substitute shall be permitted immediately.
- The referee shall submit full details surrounding the violation to the Hockey Association and the Commissioner who may assess further suspensions.

### Handling Ball with Hands

- Play shall immediately be stopped and a minor penalty assessed any player except the goaltender who closes his hands on the ball.
- A minor penalty shall be assessed a goaltender who:
  - deliberately holds the ball in any manner which, in the opinion of the referee, causes an unnecessary stoppage in play.
  - throws the ball towards his opponent's goal.
- A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who, while play is in progress, bats the ball upward with his hand more than once consecutively. (DOUBLE TAP)
- Any player, except the goalie, who picks up the ball from the playing surface will receive a delay of game penalty. If a player of the defending team (except the goaltender) picks up the ball from the playing surface while it is in his team's goal crease, the play shall be stopped and a penalty shot awarded to the non-offending team.
- A player shall be permitted to stop or bat the ball in the air with his open hand, or push the ball along the surface and play shall not be stopped unless a teammate plays the ball first. (The referee must feel that the directing of the ball to a teammate was deliberate.) In this case, play shall be stopped and the face-off shall be at the spot where the offense originated.
- The ball may not be batted with the hand directly into the goal or at the goaltender at any time. Play will be stopped immediately. A goal shall be allowed when the ball has been legally batted and is deflected into the goal by a defending player.

### High Sticks

- The carrying of sticks above the normal height of the shoulders is prohibited, and a minor penalty may be assessed any player violating this rule.

**Note-A penalty for high-sticking shall NOT be assessed when a player raises his stick under the assumption that his team has just scored a goal or while he is in the act of shooting.**

- A goal scored from a high stick shall not be allowed, except by a player of the defending team.
- When a player carries or holds any part of his stick above the height of his shoulders so that injury to the face or head of an opponent results, the referee shall have no alternative but to assess a major penalty on the offending player. **(Contact)**
- Batting the ball above the normal height of the shoulders with the stick is prohibited, and when it occurs play shall be stopped, a minor penalty will be assessed and the ensuing face-off shall be at the spot where the offense occurred unless:
  - The defending player in his own defending zone shall bat the ball to an opponent, in which case, the play shall continue until the defending team gains possession.
  - A player of the defending side shall bat the ball into his own goal, in which case the goal shall be allowed and the penalty shall be waived.
  - If either team is below the numerical strength of its opponents and a player of the team with the greater numerical strength causes a stoppage of play by striking the ball with his stick held above the height of his shoulder, the resulting face-off shall be at either end face-off spot of the defending zone of the team causing the stoppage of play.

**Note: Below numerical strength means a team is short via penalty and/or the opposing team has pulled their goalie for an extra forward attacker**

### **Holding**

- A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who holds an opponent with hands or stick or in any other way.

### **Hooking or Hacking**

- A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by "hooking" with his stick.
- A major penalty shall be assessed any player who injures an opponent by "hooking" or "hacking".
- A player may not try to impede another player's progress by continually hacking at his body with his stick. **(Contact)**

**Note: When a player is checking another in such a way that there is only stick-to-stick contact, such action is not either holding or hooking.**

### **Pushing (Contact)**

- Any player who deliberately uses his hands to push or otherwise reposition an opponent with his hands during play shall be assessed a minor penalty.

### **Kicking the Ball**

- Kicking the ball shall be permitted in all zones. A goal may not be scored by an attacking player kicking the ball into the net except if the attacking player kicks the ball and it is deflected into the goal by any defending player except the goaltender.

### **Interference**

- A minor penalty for interference shall be assessed any player who:
  - interferes with or impedes the progress of an opponent who is not in possession of the ball.
  - deliberately knocks a stick out of an opponent's hand.
  - prevents an opponent who has lost or dropped his stick from regaining possession of it.

**Note: The last player to touch the ball (other than the goaltender) shall be considered the player in possession. In interpreting this rule, the referee should make sure which of the players is the one creating the interference; often it is the action and movement of the attacking player which causes the interference since the defending players are entitled to stand their ground or "shadow" the attacking players. Players of the side in possession of the ball shall not be allowed to run deliberate interference for the ball carrier.**

- Unless the ball is in the goal crease, a minor penalty shall be assessed any player who, by means of his stick or body, interferes with or impedes the movements of a goaltender by actual contact, while the goaltender is within his goal crease area.

**Note: Actual contact means that the goaltender is touched by the attacking player's stick or body.**

- If the ball enters the net while an attacking player is within the goal crease after having been or while being physically interfered with by any defending player, the goal shall be allowed.
- If, while on the player's bench or penalty bench, a player throws any article on the playing surface, or interferes with opposing players or officials in any way, he shall receive a game misconduct penalty.

### **Interference by Spectators**

- The referee shall stop play if a player is being held or interfered with by a spectator unless that player's team is in possession of the ball and in a scoring position at the time, in this case, play shall be allowed to be completed before the stoppage.
- The referee shall stop play if any objects are thrown on the playing surface which interferes with the progress of the play. When play resumes, the face-off shall be where the stoppage took place, unless otherwise stated in the Official Rules.

### **Golf Shot**

- A player may not swing his stick at the ball in a "golfing" fashion with one hand or with both hands on the stick within 4 inches of each other. A minor penalty is assigned for this infraction.

### **Lobbing the Ball (Does not apply to Roller Hockey)**

- A defensive player cannot deliberately lob the ball with his stick high over the reach of opposing players whereby, in flight, the ball carries across both the clearing line and the blue line. The referee will call a face-off deep in the zone for this infraction.

### **Mouthpiece (Roller Hockey)**

- All skaters **MUST** have a mouthpiece in place while on the rink surface, with no exceptions.
- Any player caught skating without a mouthpiece, or with a mouthpiece not firmly in place, will receive a minor penalty.

### **Slashing (Contact)**

- A minor or major penalty, at the discretion of the referee, shall be assessed any player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by "slashing" with his stick.
- Injury to an opponent by slashing an opponent shall incur a major penalty.
- A slashing penalty shall be assessed any player who swings his stick at an opponent (whether in or out of range) without actually striking him or when on the pretext of playing the ball, makes a wild swing at the ball with the object of intimidating his opponent.

### **Spearing or Butt-Ending (Contact)**

- A match penalty shall be assessed any player who spears or butt-ends an opponent.

**Note: "Spearing" shall mean the act of poking an opponent with the point of the blade of the stick while holding the stick in one hand or both hands.**

**Note: Attempt to "spear " or "butt-end" shall include all cases where a "spearing" or butt-ending" gestures is made, regardless whether body contact is made or not.**

### **Throwing Stick**

- When any player of the defending team, including the goaltender, deliberately throws his stick or any part thereof, or any other object at the ball in the defending zone, the referee shall allow the play to be completed and if a goal is not scored, a penalty shot shall be awarded to the attacking team. If a goal is scored the penalty shot shall not be awarded.
- A double-minor penalty shall be assessed any player who deliberately throws his stick or any part thereof, or any other object in any zone, except when such act had been penalized by the award of a penalty shot or a goal.

**Note: When a player discards the broken portion of a stick by tossing it to the side of the rink (not over the boards) in such a way so that it does not interfere with play or opposing players, no penalty shall be assessed.**

- A misconduct penalty shall be assessed any player who deliberately throws a stick or any part thereof or any object outside the playing area.

### **Tripping (Contact)**

- A minor penalty or major penalty shall be assessed any player who shall place his stick, knee, foot, arm, hand or elbow in such a manner that causes his opponent to trip or fall.

**Note: A penalty shall not be assessed if in the referee's opinion a player is unquestionably hook-checking the ball and obtains possession of it thereby tripping the ball carrier.**

- A player may not slide on his knees or otherwise roll into an opponent thereby causing the opponent to trip or fall.
- When a player in control of the ball, in the attacking zone, is tripped or otherwise fouled and thus prevented from having a clear shot on goal, having no other to pass than the goaltender, a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team. Nevertheless, the referee shall not stop play until the attacking team has lost control of the ball to the defending team.

**Note: "Control of the ball" shall mean the act of propelling the ball with the stick. If, while it is being propelled, the ball shall touch the person, stick or shoe of another player or should hit the goal post or go free, the player shall be deemed no longer in control. The intention of this rule is to restore a good scoring opportunity which has been lost by reason of the foul, and therefore, where there is no reasonable scoring chance lost by reason of a foul a penalty shot should not be awarded.**

### **Goals and Assists**

- A goal shall be scored when the ball has legally passed between the goal posts below the cross bar and completely across the goal line.
- A goal shall be scored if the ball is put into the goal in any manner by a player of the defending team. The player of the attacking team who last played the ball shall be credited with the goal, but no assist shall be given.
- If an attacking player kicks the ball and it is deflected into the goal by a defending player, except the goaltender, the goal shall be allowed. The player who kicked the ball shall be credited with the goal, but no assists shall be given.

- If the shot of an attacking player has been deflected into the goal by striking the stick, shoe or any part of the body of an attacking player, the goal shall be allowed and the player off whom the ball deflected shall be credited with the goal and the player making the shot will be credited with the assist.

**The goal shall not be allowed if the ball has been kicked, thrown or otherwise deliberately directed into the goal by any means other than a stick.**

- If a goal is scored as the result of a ball deflected directly into the goal off the person or shoe of an official, the goal shall not be allowed.
- Unless the ball is in the area bounded by the goal crease, an attacking player who is not in possession of the ball shall not stand in the goal crease, on the goal line or hold his stick in the goal crease. If a goal is scored while such conditions prevail, it shall be disallowed and the resulting face-off shall be at the nearest face-off spot in the defensive zone.
- Should a player propel the ball into the goal crease of the opposing team and the ball becomes loose and available to an attacking player, the ball shall be considered in the crease legally and any goal scored on this play shall be a legal goal.
- Each goal and assist shall count one point on the scoring records. Not more than two assists shall be credited on any one goal.
- An assist shall be credited to the player or players having touched the ball without the opposition having control prior to the goal being scored.
- Any goal scored, other than as covered by these Official Rules shall not be allowed.

#### **Offside (Does not apply to Roller Hockey)**

- Players of the offensive team must not precede the ball into the offensive zone. The position of the player's feet and not that of his stick shall be the determining factor in all instances in deciding an "offside". A player is "offside" when both feet are completely over the outer edge of the centerline. If a pass deflects off a defensive player, his feet or his stick, causing an offensive player to precede the ball into the offensive zone, the offside shall apply.

**Note 1: A player is "onside" when either of his feet are in physical contact with, or on his own side of the line at the instant the ball completely crosses the outer edge of that line regardless of the position of his stick**

**Note 2: It should be noted that while the position of the player's feet is what determines whether a player is offside, the question of an offside never arises until the ball has completely crossed the outer edge of the centerline at which the decision is to be made.**

- For violation of this rule, play shall be stopped and the face-off shall be in the defensive zone of the offending team nearest the centerline at the point where the ball crossed the centerline.
- Even though a member of the offensive team shall have preceded the ball into the offensive zone, the off-side shall be ignored and play permitted to continue if the ball has been clearly intercepted by a member of the defending team and is passed or carried by the defending team into the other zone.

**Note: Referees should be careful not to blow the whistle too soon on this play**

- If a player legally carries or passes the ball from the offensive zone back into his own defending zone while a player of the opposing team is in such defending zone, the off-side shall be ignored and play permitted to continue.

- If, in the opinion of the referee an intentional offside play has been made, the ball shall be faced-off at the end face-off spot in the defending zone of the offending team.

**Note: This rule does not apply to a team below the numerical strength of its opponents. In such cases the ball shall be faced-off at the spot from which the pass was started.**

### **Ball Out of Sight and Illegal Ball**

- Should a scramble take place or a player accidentally fall on the ball causing the referee to lose sight of the ball, play shall be stopped immediately. The resulting face-off shall be at the nearest face-off spot.
- If at any time while play is in progress, a ball other than the one legally in play appears on the playing surface, the play shall not be stopped, but shall continue with the legal ball until the play then in progress is completed.

### **Ball Striking Official**

- Play shall **not** be stopped if the ball touches an official anywhere on the playing surface, except when the ball is deflected directly off an official into the goal or out of the playing area.

### **Time of Game**

- The regulation time of a game of Dekhockey played in a rink is three 10 minute periods for a total of 30 minutes actual playing time.
- The time can be varied by agreement of the Hockey Association or Commissioner whereby three 12 minute periods, three 15 minute periods, or two 22 minutes periods (Roller Hockey) would be a complete game. Once the league adopts this variation in time, it must remain for all games during the season or tournament except for the play-offs or the final game in a tournament.
- The time of the intermissions between each period may vary from 1 minute to 3 minutes. This is decided upon by the Hockey Association or Commissioner before the season or playoffs begin and is maintained for the duration of the season or round of playoffs.
- The team scoring the greatest number of goals during the three periods shall be the winner and shall be credited with two points in the league standing.
- If any unusual delay occurs before the end of the first or second periods, the referee may order the next regular intermission to be taken immediately. The balance of the period will be completed on the resumption of play with the teams defending the same goals, after which the teams will change ends and resume play of the ensuing period without delay.

### **Tied Game**

- If, at the end of three regulation periods the score is tied, the game ends, then there will be one period of "sudden death" overtime. The overtime period will be 5 minutes of running time. As soon as one of the teams scores a goal the game will be over. If at the end of the overtime period there is no goal scored the game will end in a tie.
- During the playoffs a winner is necessary so following shall take place:
  - A regular intermission after which the teams shall change ends
  - The ball shall be faced-off and play shall continue until one team scores.
  - The length of this "sudden death" overtime period shall be that of a regulation period.
  - If neither team scores in the overtime period, a regulation rest period will be allowed after which additional overtime periods will be repeated until one team scores.

- Any overtime period shall be considered part of the game and all unexpired penalties shall remain in force.
- If either team declines to play in the necessary overtime period or periods the game shall be declared a loss for that team.

### **Refusing to Start Play**

- If a team is withdrawn from the playing surface and fails to go on the playing surface and start play, or if being on the playing surface fails to start play within 2 minutes after being ordered to do so by the referee the game or series shall be forfeited to the opposing team.
- If a team is withdrawn or fails to go on the playing surface, or being on the playing surface fails to start play a second time within the same game after being ordered to do so by the referee, the 2 minute allowance shall not be granted and the referee shall immediately declare the game forfeited to the opposing team.

**Note: Should the offending team be on the playing surface, the order shall be given by the referee in person. If the offending team is not on the playing surface, the timekeeper, on the instruction of the referee, will convey the order to the offending team. The order may be given to any of the coaches of the offending team.**

- If a team fails to present itself at the time and place appointed to play any game, the game shall be awarded to the opposing team, unless such failure is caused by an unavoidable accident or an unforeseen contingency.
- A coach or player who refuses to leave the bench within 2 minutes of being ordered to do so by the referee, shall be given a game misconduct.

### **Inclement Weather**

- Once the game has started, only the referees have the authority to stop or postpone the game.
- Referees may stop a game at the request of BOTH benches.
- Regular Season (Street Hockey)
  - Two complete periods will constitute a complete game.
  - Regular season games stopped in the third period will be considered complete.
  - Games halted in the first and period will be postponed and played on an agreed upon date in the future, starting from the time the stoppage occurred, with the same score, to its conclusion.
- Regular Season (Roller Hockey)
  - One complete period will constitute a complete game.
  - Regular season games stopped in the second period will be considered complete.
  - Games halted in the first and period will be postponed and played on an agreed upon date in the future, starting from the time the stoppage occurred, with the same score, to its conclusion.
- Playoffs
  - All playoff games must be completed in full
  - Regardless of period, halted games will be postponed and played on an agreed upon date in the future, starting from the time the stoppage occurred, with the same score, to its conclusion.